REMARKS

Claims 15, 37 and 58 are canceled. Claim 65 is added.

Claims 1-64 stand variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Seifried et al. (U.S. 5,531,003, hereinafter "Seifried") and/or under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Seifried or over Seifired in view of Stevenson et al. (U.S. 6,765,779, hereinafter "Stevenson").

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited references are deficient in anticipating or rendering obvious the pending claims for several reasons. Seifried fails to disclose that the ferrule may contain a second conductive metal coating covering at least a portion of the ferrule outer surface. Stevenson discloses an EMI feedthrough in which a conductive pad is formed on a surface of the ferrule as a part of a hermetic seal between the insulator and the ferrule. The conductive pad 346 taught by Stevenson is shown along an inner surface of the ferrule, included in the hermetic seal 330 that extends between an inner surface of the ferrule and insulator 324. The conductive pad is not shown along an outer surface of the ferrule, as shown in Figure 6 of the present application and as stated in the pending claims.

Furthermore, the conductive pad is conductively coupled to the second termination surface of the feedthrough filter capacitor (see, for example, claim 1 and Figure 22). Thus Stevenson teaches connections within the feedthrough, not between the ferrule outer surface and an electrical device (not included in the feedthrough) as stated in the pending claims. Accordingly, neither of the references, alone or combined, teach, suggest or imply forming a second conductive metal coating on an outer surface of the ferrule and a connector that electrically couples and mechanically engages the second coating and an electrical contact of an electrical device. Withdrawal of the instant rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

_____ /Carol F. Barry/

Date

Carol F. Barry
Reg. No. 41,600
(763) 514-4673
Customer No. 27581